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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 2002-IP-006435  
*Cove*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent No.: 6,988,556  
Issued: January 24, 2006  
Patentee: James D. Vick, Jr.  
Entitled: DEEP SET SAFETY VALVE

**TRANSMITTAL OF CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION  
AND REQUEST FOR EXPEDITED ISSUANCE**

Attn: Certificate of Corrections Branch  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
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*Certificate  
of Correction  
JUL 07 2006*

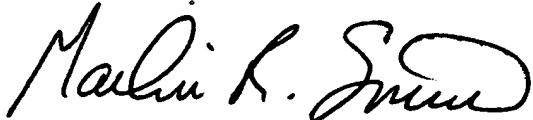
Enclosed is a form PTO/SB/44 comprising a Certificate of Correction for the above-identified patent. Correction of the patent is requested under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.322, since the error is attributable solely to the Office.

Specifically, several errors were made in the claims of the patent. Enclosed is a copy of an Amendment filed July 13, 2005 containing a complete listing of the claims, including the full text of each claim. The Amendment was entered as evidenced by the enclosed copy of the Notice of Allowability transmitted with the Notice of Allowance dated September 14, 2005. The claims as printed in the patent contain errors not found in the claims as listed in the Amendment. Therefore, the error is attributable solely to the Office.

Pursuant to the procedure set forth in MPEP §1480.01, expedited issuance of the Certificate of Correction is respectfully requested. The requirements for expedited issuance have been met, since the text of the requested correction is submitted on the appropriate form PTO/SB/44, the location of the errors in the printed patent are identified by column and line number, the requested correction was incurred through the fault of the Office, the matter is clearly disclosed in the records of the Office, and this request is accompanied by documentation that unequivocally supports the patentee's assertions.

Respectfully submitted,

SMITH IP SERVICES, P.C.



Marlin R. Smith  
Attorney for Patentee  
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Dated: June 28, 2006

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Sherna Shuffo

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**Page 1 of 2

PATENT NO. : 6,988,556

APPLICATION NO.: 10/078,839

ISSUE DATE : January 24, 2006

INVENTOR(S) : James D. Vick, Jr.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In claim 6, column 10, line 55, insert --in-- between the words "wherein" and "the".

In claim 7, column 10, line 59, insert --in-- between the words "wherein" and "the".

In claim 10, column 11, line 4, delete "lines" and replace with --line--.

In claim 18, column 11, line 36, insert --a-- between the words "is" and "sliding".

In claim 22, column 11, line 45, delete the second occurrence of "by".

In claim 23, column 11, line 48, cancel the text beginning with "23. The well tool" to and ending "dynamic seal." in column 11, line 50, and insert the following claim:

23. The well tool according to claim 11, wherein the operating member is pressure-balanced.

In claim 35, column 12, line 18, delete "24" and replace with --34--.

In claim 40, column 12, line 48, delete "actuatir" and replace with --actuator--.

In claim 42, column 13, line 7, delete "and".

In claim 44, column 13, line 49, insert --of the-- between the words "other" and "first".

In claim 46, column 14, line 11, insert --being-- between the words "device" and "connected".

In claim 50, column 14, line 27, insert --the-- between the words "comprising" and "steps".

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Attention Certificate of Corrections Branch, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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JUL 07 2006

**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION**Page 2 of 2

PATENT NO. : 6,988,556

APPLICATION NO.: 10/078,839

ISSUE DATE : January 24, 2006

INVENTOR(S) : James D. Vick, Jr.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

In claim 51, column 14, line 41, insert --tool-- immediately following the word "well".

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JUL 07 2006



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: James D. Vick, Jr.  
Serial No.: 10/078,839  
Filed: February 19, 2002  
Entitled: DEEP SET SAFETY VALVE  
Group Art Unit: 3672  
Examiner: J. Hawkins Gay

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the May 12, 2005 Office Action therein, please amend the above-identified application as set forth below.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Substitute the following claims for the pending claims having the same numbers.

1-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

an actuator including a piston which displaces in response to a first pressure applied to the piston;

an operating member which displaces to operate the well tool, the operating member having a second pressure applied thereto; and

a magnetic coupling including at least one first magnet attached to the piston and at least one second magnet attached to the operating member,

displacement of the piston being translated into displacement of the operating member while the first and second pressures are isolated from each other, without the use of any dynamic seal isolating the first pressure from the second pressure.

31. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 30, wherein each of the first and second magnets is a permanent magnet.

32-37. (Canceled)

38. (Previously Presented) A method of actuating a well tool in a well, the method comprising the steps of:

displacing an actuator member of the well tool, the actuator member being exposed to a first pressure, and the well tool having a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

translating displacement of the actuator member to displacement of an operating member by use of a magnetic coupling therebetween, the operating member being exposed to a second pressure, the first and second pressures being isolated from each other; and

actuating the well tool in response to displacement of the operating member.

39. (Original) The method according to Claim 38, wherein in the translating step the magnetic coupling translates displacement from the actuator member to the operating member across a rigid pressure isolation barrier between the first and second pressures.

40. (Original) The method according to Claim 38, wherein in the translating step the first and second pressures are isolated from each other without the use of any dynamic seal therebetween.

41. (Original) The method according to Claim 38, wherein in the displacing step the actuator member is exposed to a third pressure, the actuator member displacing in response to a differential between the first and third pressures.

42. (Original) The method according to Claim 41, wherein in the displacing step the first and third pressures are each isolated from the second pressure, without the use of any dynamic seal.

43. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 41, wherein in the displacing step the first pressure is pressure in a first line connected to the actuator, and the third pressure is pressure in a second line connected to the actuator.

44. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 41, wherein in the displacing step the first pressure is pressure in a first line connected to the actuator, and the third pressure is pressure in an annulus surrounding the well tool.

45. (Previously Presented) The method according to Claim 41, wherein in the displacing step the first pressure is pressure in a first line connected to the actuator, and the third pressure is pressure in a chamber of compressed gas.

46-51. (Canceled)

52. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

an actuator;

at least one first magnetic device positioned in a first portion of the well tool at a first pressure, and the actuator displacing the first magnetic device;

at least one second magnetic device positioned in a second portion of the well tool at a second pressure, and the well tool being operated in response to displacement of the operating member; and

a pressure barrier isolating the first and second pressures, and displacement of the first magnetic device on a first side of the barrier causing displacement of the second magnetic device on a second side of the barrier.

53. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the first pressure is pressure in a line connected to the actuator.

54. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the second pressure is pressure in an internal flow passage formed axially through the well tool.

55. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the first pressure is pressure in an annulus surrounding the well tool.

56. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the first pressure is pressure in a chamber containing compressed gas.

57. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the well tool is a safety valve.

58. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the well tool is a sliding sleeve valve.

59. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the well tool is a packer.

60. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the actuator is a rotational actuator, and wherein rotation of the first magnetic device by the actuator causes corresponding rotation of the second magnetic device and operating member.

61. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the operating member is pressure-balanced.

62. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the first pressure is isolated from the second pressure without use of any dynamic seal.

63. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the actuator displaces the first magnetic device in response to a pressure differential in the actuator.

64. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the actuator displaces the first magnetic device in response to operation of a motor in the actuator.

65. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the actuator displaces the first magnetic device in response to a differential between the first pressure and a third pressure applied to the actuator.

66. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 65, wherein the third pressure is pressure in a line connected to the actuator.

67. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 66, wherein the first pressure is pressure in an annulus surrounding the well tool.

68. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 67, wherein the second pressure is pressure in a tubular string in which the well tool is interconnected.

69. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 68, wherein the tubular string pressure is isolated from the line pressure and from the annulus pressure, without use of any dynamic seal.

70. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the actuator displaces the first magnetic device in response to pressure in a line connected to the actuator, the line pressure being isolated from the second pressure.

71. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 70, wherein the line pressure is isolated from the second pressure without use of any dynamic seal.

72. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 52, wherein the actuator displaces the first magnetic device in response to a differential between pressure in an annulus surrounding the well tool and pressure in a line connected to the actuator.

73. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 72, wherein the line pressure and the annulus pressure are isolated from the second pressure without use of any dynamic seal.

74. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 73, wherein the second pressure is pressure in a tubing string in which the well tool is interconnected.

75. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 73, wherein the first pressure is the annulus pressure.

76-107. (Canceled)

108. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;

an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, the first and second magnetic devices being on opposite sides of a pressure barrier.

109. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;

an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, the first and second magnetic devices being pressure isolated from each other without the use of a dynamic seal.

110. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;

an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, the first magnetic device including a first series of magnets having polarities opposite to a second series of magnets in the second magnetic device.

111. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;  
an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;  
an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, each of the first and second magnetic devices including magnets having axially aligned polarities.

112. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;  
an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;  
an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, each of the first and second magnetic devices including magnets having radially aligned polarities.

113. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;

an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, each of the first and second magnetic devices including magnets having opposing polarity directions, so that the magnets in each of the first and second magnetic devices are attracted to oppositely directed polarity magnets in the other of the first and second magnetic devices.

114. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;

an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, each of the first and second magnetic devices including magnets having opposing polarity directions, so that the magnets in each of the first and second magnetic devices are repelled by similarly directed polarity magnets in the other of the first and second magnetic devices.

115. (Previously Presented) A well tool, comprising:

a flow passage for flow of fluid therethrough;

an actuator for displacing an actuator member of the well tool;

an operating member which is displaced to operate the well tool; and

a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, the magnetic coupling including first and second magnetic devices, the first magnetic device being connected to the actuator member, and the second magnetic device being connected to the operating member, each of the first and second magnetic devices having a magnetic pattern, the magnetic patterns preventing relative displacement between the first and second magnetic devices.

116. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 115, wherein the magnetic patterns are produced by varied spacings between magnets in the first and second magnetic devices.

117. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 115, wherein the magnetic patterns are produced by varied polarity sequences between magnets in the first and second magnetic devices.

118. (Original) The well tool according to Claim 117, wherein the varied polarity sequences include alternating magnet polarities in the first and second magnetic devices.

119-120. (Canceled)

121. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to claim 52, wherein the operating member is a closure member of a valve.

122-123. (Canceled)

124. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 57, wherein the operating member is an opening prong of the safety valve.

125-130. (Canceled)

131. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 58, wherein the operating member is a sliding sleeve of the valve.

132. (Previously Presented) The well tool according to Claim 59, wherein the operating member is a setting mandrel of the packer.

133-152. (Canceled)

153. (Previously Presented) A method of completing a well, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning a well tool in the well;

displacing an actuator member of the well tool; and

translating displacement of the actuator member to displacement of an operating member of the well tool, the translation being performed across a pressure isolation barrier without use of any dynamic seal, and the translating step being performed using a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member.

154-163. (Canceled)

164. (Previously Presented) A method of completing a well, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning a well tool in the well;

displacing an actuator member of the well tool; and

translating displacement of the actuator member to displacement of an operating member of the well tool, the translation being performed across a pressure isolation barrier without use of any dynamic seal, and the translating step further comprising displacing a first magnetic device operatively associated with the actuator member to thereby cause displacement of a second magnetic device operatively associated with the operating member.

165. (Canceled)

166. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a tubular string in a well, the method comprising the steps of:

interconnecting in the tubular string a well tool including an actuator member;

positioning the tubular string in the well; and

translating displacement of the actuator member to displacement of an operating member of the well tool, the translation being performed across a pressure isolation barrier without use of any dynamic seal, and the translating step being performed using a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member.

167-176. (Canceled)

177. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a tubular string in a well, the method comprising the steps of:

interconnecting in the tubular string a well tool including an actuator member;

positioning the tubular string in the well; and

translating displacement of the actuator member to displacement of an operating member of the well tool, the translation being performed across a pressure isolation barrier without use of any dynamic seal, and the translating step further comprising displacing a first magnetic device operatively associated with the actuator member to thereby cause displacement of a second magnetic device operatively associated with the operating member.

178. (Canceled)

179. (Previously Presented) A completion string for use in a well, the completion string comprising:

a well tool interconnected in the completion string, the well tool including an actuator member and an operating member, displacement of the actuator member being translatable into displacement of the operating member across a pressure barrier without use of any dynamic seal, and the well tool further including a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member.

180-189. (Canceled)

190. (Previously Presented) A completion string for use in a well, the completion string comprising:

a well tool interconnected in the completion string, the well tool including an actuator member and an operating member, displacement of the actuator member being translatable into displacement of the operating member across a pressure barrier without use of any dynamic seal, and

wherein a first magnetic device operatively associated with the actuator member causes displacement of a second magnetic device operatively associated with the

operating member when displacement of the actuator member is translated into displacement of the operating member.

191. (Canceled)

192. (Previously Presented) A method of completing a well, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning a well tool in the well;

displacing an actuator member of the well tool; and

translating displacement of the actuator member into displacement of an operating member of the well tool using a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, and performing the translating step across a pressure isolation barrier without use of any dynamic seal.

193. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 192, wherein in the translating step, a pressure differential exists across the pressure isolation barrier.

194. (Previously Presented) A method of completing a well, the method comprising the steps of:

positioning a well tool in the well;

displacing an actuator member of the well tool; and

translating displacement of the actuator member into displacement of an operating member of the well tool using a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, and

wherein in the translating step, the actuator member is exposed to a first pressure, and the operating member is exposed to a second pressure different from the first pressure, without use of any dynamic seal therebetween.

195-204. (Canceled)

205. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a tubular string in a well, the method comprising the steps of:

interconnecting in the tubular string a well tool including an actuator member;

positioning the tubular string in the well; and

translating displacement of the actuator member into displacement of an operating member of the well tool using a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, and performing the translating step across a pressure isolation barrier without use of any dynamic seal.

206. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 205, wherein in the translating step, a pressure differential exists across the pressure isolation barrier.

207. (Previously Presented) A method of installing a tubular string in a well, the method comprising the steps of:

interconnecting in the tubular string a well tool including an actuator member;

positioning the tubular string in the well; and

translating displacement of the actuator member into displacement of an operating member of the well tool using a magnetic coupling between the actuator member and the operating member, and

wherein in the translating step, the actuator member is exposed to a first pressure, and the operating member is exposed to a second pressure different from the first pressure, without use of any dynamic seal therebetween.

208-217. (Canceled)

218. (Previously Presented) A completion string for use in a well, the completion string comprising:

a well tool interconnected in the completion string, the well tool including an actuator member, an operating member, and a magnetic coupling, displacement of the actuator member being translatable into displacement of the operating member using the magnetic coupling, and the well tool further including a pressure isolation barrier between the actuator member and the operating member, displacement of the actuator member being translatable into displacement of the operating member across the pressure isolation barrier without use of any dynamic seal.

219. (Previously Presented) The completion string according to claim 218, wherein a pressure differential exists across the pressure isolation barrier when displacement of the actuator member is translated into displacement of the operating member.

220. (Previously Presented) A completion string for use in a well, the completion string comprising:

a well tool interconnected in the completion string, the well tool including an actuator member, an operating member, and a magnetic coupling, displacement of the actuator member being translatable into displacement of the operating member using the magnetic coupling, and

wherein the actuator member is exposed to a first pressure, and the operating member is exposed to a second pressure different from the first pressure, when displacement of the actuator member is translated into displacement of the operating member.

221-274. (Canceled)

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

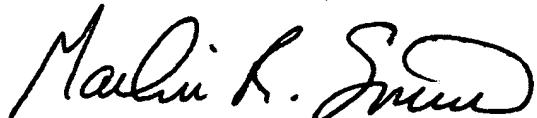
The examiner's indication that claims 30, 31, 38-45, 52-75, 108-118, 121, 124, 131, 132, 153, 164, 166, 177, 179, 190, 192-194, 205-207 and 218-220 are allowed, is noted with appreciation. The claims rejected in the Office Action have been canceled above (without prejudice).

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, all of the claims pending in this application are now seen to be in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of claims 30, 31, 38-45, 52-75, 108-118, 121, 124, 131, 132, 153, 164, 166, 177, 179, 190, 192-194, 205-207 and 218-220 is therefore earnestly solicited.

The examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at (972) 516-0030 if such would expedite the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

KONNEKER & SMITH, P.C.



Marlin R. Smith  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 38,310

Dated: July 12, 2005

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Suite 230  
Plano, Texas 75074  
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on JULY 13, 2005

Drew Shaffer



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020558 7590 09/14/2005

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GAY, JENNIFER HAWKINS

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PAPER NUMBER

3672

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2005

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAME <sup>1</sup> INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/078,839	02/19/2002	James D. Vick JR.	2002-IP-006435	6566

TITLE OF INVENTION: DEEP SET SAFETY VALVE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$0	\$0	\$0	12/14/2005

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

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I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER:** Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

## PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

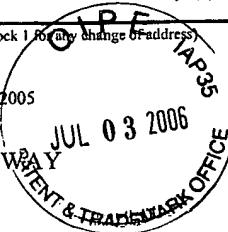
Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail

**Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**P.O. Box 1450**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450**  
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**INSTRUCTIONS:** This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

020558 7590 09/14/2005  
**KONNEKER & SMITH P.C.**  
**660 NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY**  
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**PLANO, TX 75074**



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**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission**  
I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

	(Depositor's name)
	(Signature)
	(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/078,839	02/19/2002	James D. Vick JR.	2002-IP-006435	6566

TITLE OF INVENTION: DEEP SET SAFETY VALVE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$0	\$0	\$0	12/14/2005
EXAMINER	ART UNIT		CLASS-SUBCLASS		
GAY, JENNIFER HAWKINS	3672		166-386000		

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).  
 Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.  
 "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list  
(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,  
(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 \_\_\_\_\_  
2 \_\_\_\_\_  
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**ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)**

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent):  Individual  Corporation or other private group entity  Government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

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 Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)  
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4b. Payment of Fee(s):

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 Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
 The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

**5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)**

- a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.  b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above. NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Typed or printed name \_\_\_\_\_

Registration No. \_\_\_\_\_

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/078,839	02/19/2002	James D. Vick JR.	2002-IP-006435	6566

020558 7590 09/14/2005  
KONNEKER & SMITH P. C.  
660 NORTH CENTRAL EXPRESSWAY  
SUITE 230  
PLANO, TX 75074



EXAMINER	
GAY, JENNIFER HAWKINS	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3672	

DATE MAILED: 09/14/2005

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

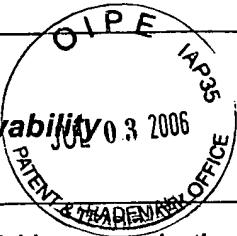
The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 88 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 88 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571) 272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

**Notice of Allowability** 03 2006



Application No.	Applicant(s)
10/078,839	VICK, JAMES D.
Examiner	Art Unit
Jennifer H. Gay	3672

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1.  This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 7/16/05.
2.  The allowed claim(s) is/are 30,31,38-45,52-75,108-118,121,124,131,132,153,164,166,177,179,190,192-194,205-207 and 218-220.
3.  The drawings filed on 09 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4.  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a)  All
  - b)  Some\*    c)  None    of the:
    1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

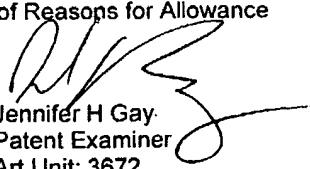
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE:

5.  A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6.  CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a)  including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
    - 1)  hereto or 2)  to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b)  including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7.  DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1.  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2.  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3.  Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 5/23/05, 6/17/05
- 4.  Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
- 5.  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6.  Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 7.  Examiner's Amendment/Comment
- 8.  Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
- 9.  Other \_\_\_\_\_.

  
Jennifer H. Gay  
Patent Examiner  
Art Unit: 3672